

Current FACts

FAC News to Use

March 13, 2014

FAC Spotlight: **Largest Donation of Surplus Computers Sent to Far West KY**

Office of Broadband Outreach & Development Initiative

In 2013, the Office of Broadband Outreach and Development (OBOD) facilitated the donation of more than 60 surplus computers to 22 Community Action Centers, primarily in eastern Kentucky. In February of this year, OBOD partnered with the Office of Regional Outreach at Murray State University, and



donated 125 refurbished computers to be used in new e-Learning centers in four western Kentucky counties.

L-R: Gina Winchester, Executive Director, and Jonathan Baskin, Office of Regional Outreach, Murray State University.

These e-Learning centers in Ballard, Carlisle, Hickman and Fulton counties will give citizens access to broadband-connected computers, which make it easier for Kentuckians to look for jobs, take online classes, register for services, file taxes, shop for a car or research health care options.

"A partnership such as this is a key part of the state's outreach efforts to make a difference in our citizens' lives," said Brian Kiser, executive director of OBOD. "Working with MSU and the Purchase Area Development District helps us direct our resources where they can have the most impact."

Gov. Steve Beshear created the OBOD in 2010 to oversee the state's overall Broadband KY initiative. Kentucky has received more than \$5.3 million in grants for broadband mapping and outreach programs, including Broadband KY, from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) grant program.

The state computer donation to MSU builds on the recent announcement of Gov. Beshear and Congressman Hal Rogers to extend high-speed broadband Internet access to the farthest reaches of the Commonwealth.

According to Kiser, lack of broadband access is much more of a challenge in rural areas. Eliminating some of these barriers, which means being comfortable and fluent with computers and technology, is a necessity for Kentuckians to participate in today's global economy.

The e-Learning centers will provide computer access and educational programming to citizens who may not have access anywhere else.

"We have been working with local civic leaders and government officials to establish these four e-Learning centers," said Gina S. Winchester, executive director, Office of Regional Outreach, Murray State University. "Staff at the centers look forward to helping people obtain the skills they need to be confident in using computers for a variety of tasks or entertainment options."

According to Winchester, the state's computer donation means the centers should be open in May, much sooner than anticipated.

"We hope these centers will become a model that can be replicated in other areas of the state," she said.

Gov. Beshear Sets 7 Major Goals to Improve State's Dismal Health

Individuals encouraged to be part of making communities healthier

Kentucky's dismal health rankings are well-known and span generations. The state has long had the dubious distinction of being among the national leaders in cancer diagnoses, smoking rates, diabetes, heart disease and a host of other maladies.

Gov. Steve Beshear recently announced that Kentucky will significantly reduce incidence and deaths from these diseases and habits through a new, aggressive and wide-ranging initiative, called "kyhealthnow," that builds on Kentucky's successful implementation of health care reform. kyhealthnow will use multiple strategies over the next several years to improve the state's collective health.



Cont'd from pg. 1

By setting specific, five-year goals, Kentucky only holds state health agencies accountable for measurable success, but also challenges local governments, businesses, schools, nonprofits and individuals to take meaningful steps toward improving health in their communities.

"Many individuals and groups in Kentucky are working on ways to make Kentuckians healthier, whether through improving access to trails, providing smoking cessation tools, or expanding availability of cancer screenings," Gov. Beshear said. "Through kyhealthnow, we will finally monitor and measure all those efforts against seven major health goals, and every Kentuckian can help. Better collective health for Kentuckians means better-prepared students and a more reliable workforce, both of which are critical for a successful future."

Current Kentucky Health Statistics

Kentucky consistently ranks among the worst states in most national health rankings, including:

- 50th in smoking
- 42nd in obesity
- 46th in physical inactivity
- 38th in diabetes
- 49th in poor mental health days
- 50th in poor physical health days
- 50th in cancer deaths
- 47th in heart disease
- 46th in high blood pressure
- 41st in annual dental visits
- 48th in heart attacks

kyhealthnow 2019 Goals

- **Reduce Kentucky's rate of uninsured individuals to less than 5%.**
- **Reduce Kentucky's smoking rate by 10%.**
- **Reduce the rate of obesity among Kentuckians by 10%.**
- **Reduce Kentucky cancer deaths by 10%.**
- **Reduce cardiovascular deaths by 10%.**
- **Reduce the percentage of children with untreated dental decay by 25% and increase adult dental visits by 10%.**
- **Reduce deaths from drug overdose by 25% and reduce by 25% the average number of poor mental health days of**

UPDATE

Outside Employment Request Form

[Procedure 1.4](#) governs outside employment and insures compliance with ethics and conflicts of interest. The Request for Approval of Outside Employment ([Form SP7.100041](#)) has been updated and posted on the Finance Intranet site.

REMINDER: Don't Forget...Your Living Well Promise is Due by May 1

If you said **YES** to the **LivingWell Promise** when you signed up for medical insurance, then you need to complete the online HumanaVitality Health Assessment before May 1, 2014. If you fail to complete the assessment, then next year you will only be eligible for Standard plan options in 2015.

You must take the HumanaVitality Health Assessment to complete the LivingWell Promise.

Follow these steps for easy registration:

- 1) Go to LivingWell.ky.gov and click on the HumanaVitality login.
- 2) *First time* users must register with Humana.com. Click on "register now" and complete required fields. Have your SSN and 9-digit member ID found on your Humana ID card available as you register. Verify your information, create a username and password. After completing registration, return to HumanVitality to sign in using your newly created username/password. *Returning users* sign in using your username/password.
- 3) Once signed in, click on the alert to "Take the Health Assessment." You'll be asked for your medical history and key measurements. If you had a Vitality Check (biometric screening) within the last 18 months, those results will be pre-populated into your health assessment. These cannot be updated until a new Vitality Check is submitted. To find a VitalityCheck location near you, visit LivingWell.ky.gov.
- 4) Receive your Vitality Age base on your health assessment responses. HumanaVitality will then recommend goals for you to select that you want to work on.



Home Gardening Lunch & Learn

If this long winter has you looking forward to spring's arrival and getting back outdoors, you won't want to miss the Home Gardening Lunch and Learn, sponsored by the State Office Building Green Team.

Launch your spring gardening plans with timely tips from Master Gardener Sue Van Patten. Whether you are a new gardener interested in learning how to grow your own vegetables or an experienced gardener interested in picking up some new gardening tips, this is your opportunity to attend an informative presentation on vegetable, container and herb gardens, as well as natural options for insect and weed control. There will also be time for your gardening questions.



Details

Wednesday, March 19
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
State Office Building
Auditorium Rooms A1/A2

You are welcome to bring your brown bag lunch, or pizza will be available for purchase from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm while supplies last.

Two slices of pizza and a soft drink or bottled water for \$4.

Proceeds go toward Green Team projects.

Door prizes will be drawn at the end of the presentation—must be present to win.

Free plant seeds for attendees while supplies last!

About the Presenter...

Sue Van Patten, Master Gardener



Sue Van Patten graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1977. Sue worked for 30 years with Eli Lilly and Company in pharmaceutical manufacturing engineering, information technology, quality control management and clinical research project management. Sue and her husband, Steve South, moved to Woodford County in 2007. She completed the Master Gardener Program through the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Office in 2007 and has been a volunteer with the program ever since. Sue is an avid, amateur gardener and enjoys working with flowers, as well as in her vegetable garden and small orchard.

Questions?

Contact Melissa Johnstone, Dept. of Revenue, Melissa.johnstone@ky.gov or Karen Mixson, Green Team Chair, karen.mixson@ky.gov.
